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National Agricultural Statistics Service



News Release

Cooperating with the Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Pennsylvania's 2007 Trout Production Valued at \$27.36 Million

HARRISBURG, PA, Mar 5, 2008 --- Pennsylvania's 54 commercial trout growers produced trout valued at \$27.36 million in 2007. Thirty-nine producers sold 1.57 million pounds of trout, valued at \$5.06 million during 2007, ranking fourth nationally behind Idaho, North Carolina, and California, while 19 producers distributed trout valued at \$22.3 million for conservation and recreational purposes, according to the Pennsylvania office of the National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS). Note that there were a few Pennsylvania trout operations that both sold and distributed trout in 2007.

Pennsylvania ranks first in the nation for the value of trout distributed for conservation and recreational purposes. With an estimated value of \$22.3 million, Pennsylvania accounts for 22.2 percent of the value of the nation's distributed trout. This includes trout released by state hatcheries, cooperative nurseries, and private fishing clubs, but this count excludes cooperative nurseries under contract to state hatcheries.

Trout were distributed for restoration or conservation purposes by 19 operations in Pennsylvania, primarily by the state fish commission and its cooperative nurseries, but also by private fishing clubs. These trout included 16,000 fish 12" or longer, and 8.8 million 6-12" fish, compared to 5.1 million 6-12" fish a year ago.

Nationally, trout distributed for restoration, conservation, and recreation purposes, primarily by state and federal hatcheries, included 8.20 million 12 inch or longer fish, 68.7 million 6-12 inch fish, and 78.9 million fingerings. The estimated value of fish and eggs distributed totaled 102 million dollars, up 16 percent from 2006.

Sales of trout 12 inches or longer by Pennsylvania's growers totaled 1.36 million pounds, or 87 percent of the total production sold during the period. Averaging \$2.87 per pound, compared to \$2.67 last year and \$1.15 nationally, the 12 inch and larger trout were valued at \$3.90 million. Fee fishing and recreational sales accounted for 51 percent of the production, and sales to processors accounted for another 20 percent.

Sales of trout 6 to 12 inches long by Pennsylvania growers totaled 400,000 fish, or 200,000 pounds live weight during the period. This was down 210,000 lbs. or 34 percent from the same period a year ago. At an average of \$5.11 a pound, up \$.46/lb from last year, and \$2.95 nationally, sales of 6 to 12 inch trout were valued at \$1,022,000, with 76 percent of the volume sold to fee fishing and recreational establishments.

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Sales of trout 1 to 6 inches long by Pennsylvania growers totaled 380,000 fish, or 10,000 pounds live weight during the period. This was unchanged from the same period a year ago. At an average of \$348.00 per thousand fish, compared to \$313.00 last year and \$177.00 nationally, sales of 1 to 6 inch trout were valued at \$132 thousand.

Total losses of all Pennsylvania trout intended for sale were 553,000 fish during 2007, with 49 percent being lost to predators, 16 percent to disease, and 35 percent to various other causes such as equipment malfunctions.

For the United States, the total value of all sales, both fish and eggs, received by trout growers during 2007 totaled \$95.0 million. Nationally, sales of fish totaled \$87.5 million for 2007. The state of Idaho accounted for 53 percent of the total value of fish sold.


The number of trout 12 inches and longer sold during 2007 totaled 59.7 million fish, up 14 percent from the previous year. The value of sales of trout 12 inches and longer for the 2007 marketing year was 80.0 million dollars, up 10 percent from 2006. Based on dollar value, 67 percent were sold to processors and 16 percent were sold to fee and recreational fishing establishments.

The number of 6-12 inch trout sold during 2007 totaled 4.99 million fish, a decrease of 20 percent from 2006. The average price per pound was \$2.95 during 2007, up 40 cents from the 2006 price. The total value of sales was 5.84 million dollars during 2007, a 9 percent decrease from the previous year. The major sales outlet for 6-12 inch trout was to fee and recreational establishments with 45 percent of the total sales, followed by other producers with 16 percent.

The number of 1-6 inch trout sold during 2007 totaled 9.56 million, a 10 percent increase from the previous year. The average value per 1,000 fish was \$177.00 during 2007, unchanged from 2006. The total value of sales was 1.70 million dollars, up 10 percent from last year's total.

Total losses of all trout intended for sale were 34.3 million fish during 2007, with 86 percent being lost to disease, 8 percent lost predators, and 4 percent lost to drought.

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